

**WITNESSES TO THE TRUTH: CONTAINING  
PASSAGES FROM DISTINGUISHED  
AUTHORS, DEVELOPING THE GREAT  
TRUTH OF UNIVERSAL SALVATION: WITH  
AN APPENDIX, EXHIBITING THE ENORMITY  
OF THE DOCTRINE OF ENDLESS MISERY**

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Witnesses to the Truth: Containing Passages from Distinguished Authors, Developing the Great Truth of Universal Salvation: With an Appendix, Exhibiting the Enormity of the Doctrine of Endless Misery by J. W. Hanson

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**J. W. HANSON**

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BY J. W. HANSON.

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"OUT OF THE STRONG COME FORTH SWEEPINGS."—JUDGES XIV. 14.

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BOSTON:  
 JAMES M. USHER.  
 1854.

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## P R E F A C E.

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The pages of this book result from the reading of one whose opportunities have not been the best. His own library is small, and his ability to obtain access to others, where he might have found much more material, has been limited. Still, he thinks the plan of his book, and the material therein, will be acknowledged both unique and valuable. The pearls of thought are precious, though strung on a coarse string.

The reader is presented with segregations from many authors—some of them of the very highest order of genius—which develop the grand idea of a final and universal destruction of evil, and the triumph of Goodness and Happiness. It is believed that those whose thoughts have not been particularly turned in this

direction, will be surprised at the number and wealth of the quotations herein contained.

He trusts his book will be useful to many classes: the Advocates of a World's Salvation will find it a *cade mecum* of quotations; the believers therein will be renewedly encouraged as they see that the capacious heart and large brain of inspired genius are with them; adherents to error will discover that the Gospel in its fulness is not confined to a modern sect alone; literary men will learn that their exalted brethren have transcended the narrow boundaries of partial systems of error; and all will see how sure are the children of genius to accord in sentiment with the children of a higher inspiration, when they give the voices within free utterance; and thus, that the highest notes of such as COLERIDGE, SOUTHEY, BYRON, THOMSON, and BARBAULD, are in harmony with those of ISAIAH JOHN, DAVID, PAUL, and that OTHER, "who spake as man never spake."

Extracts are not made from authors professedly Universalist, nor from theologians in other sects who have proclaimed the doctrine, unless they have possessed a literary character outside of their theological circle. It would be easy to fill volumes of most eloquent pœ-



try and prose written by such, among whom our own writers would not be least. Such, however, do not come within the scope of this work. The prose of WINCHESTER, MURRAY, BALLOU, BALFOUR, STREETER, KING, CHAPIN, TRAYER, SAWYER, WILLIAMSON, MAYO, and others quite their equals, and the poetry of Mrs. MAYO, JERARD, SAWYER, LIVERMORE, or of THOMAS, GREENWOOD, LEE, BALLOU, and others,—the prose and poetry inspired by our belief in the hearts of its receivers,—would fill volumes with eloquence resembling the burning songs of ISAIAH, and the rapt rhetoric of PAUL. The object is, to quote from literary persons only, and to give what may be called the language of genius.

The compiler has been referred to CHAUNCEY HASE TOWNSHEND, HERDER, Mrs. L. M. CHILD, HENRY GILES, MARGARET FULLER OSSOLI, and others, for further extracts. He has not yet found more authors than he here presents. He would be under obligations to any for further references, and meanwhile he would confess his indebtedness for some of the contents of this volume to Revs. VARNUM LINCOLN, GILES BAILEY, T. B. TRAYER, H. C. LEONARD, and ROBERT BLACKER, and to the *Ladies' Repository*, *Trumpet*, *Universalist Union*, and *Gospel Banner*.

. The following pages are not regarded as authorities, but as confirmations of the interpretations placed on Christianity by those who believe that God is a Universal Father, and that all men are brethren, destined to a Common Salvation.

IT IS DEDICATED TO

*The Household of Faith.*

*Gardiner, Me., 1853.*

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